

19. (New) The matrix of claim 18 wherein said matrix induces repair of partial thickness skin defects.

20. (New) The matrix of claim 18 wherein said matrix induces repair of full thickness skin defects.

21. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix induces repair of cartilaginous defects.

22. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix induces repair of bone defects.

23. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix induces repair of vascular defects.

24. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix induces repair of connective tissue defects.

25. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix induces repair of cardiac defects.

26. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said basement membrane is derived from a hollow epithelial organ.

27. (New) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said basement membrane is delaminated from the mucous membrane of an epithelial organ.

28. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the source of said basement membrane is a hollow epithelial organ.

29. (New) The composition of claim 10 further comprising cells.

30. (New) The composition of claim 29 wherein the cells comprise cells from a cultured cell line.

Please cancel claim 6.

#### REMARKS

Upon entry of this paper, claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 5, 8, and 10-13 are amended and claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 8 and 10-13 are amended to correct antecedent basis, typographical errors or to more clearly define the scope of

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Applicant's invention. Claims 18-30 have been added. Support for the claim amendments and new claims may be found in the application as originally-filed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as drawn to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant's amendments to claims 4 and 5 should satisfy the Examiner's concerns in this regard. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §101 to these claims.

Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 6 is canceled herein obviating the rejection to this claim. The amendments to claims 4 and 5 should satisfy the Examiner's concerns in this regard. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under §112, second paragraph, to these claims.

Related Pending Application

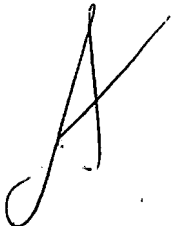
Applicant has filed a related application, U.S. 09/691,590 claiming benefit of provisional application 60/171,733.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicant filed a Supplemental Information Disclosure (IDS) received by the U.S. Patent Office on March 8, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests an initialed copy of the PTO 1449 form filed with the IDS on March 8, 2002 with the next Office Action. An additional Supplemental Information Disclosure, PTO-1449 form and references are filed with this response.

Allowed Claims

Applicant acknowledges that claims 1-3 and 7-17 were allowed in the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on March 11, 2002.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all claims in due course. If the Examiner feels that a telephonic interview would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative at (617) 248-7044.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 6, 2002  
Reg. No. 44,244

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**MARKED COPY OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS**

4. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix [is sutured at said tissue defect] may be sutured at a tissue defect site.

5. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix is [injected into said tissue defect] injectable.

8. A method for inducing repair of a tissue defect in a mammal, said method comprising:

providing to [a]the defect site, a devitalized matrix comprising a mammalian epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria immediately adjacent to said basement membrane.

10. A [devitalized] composition, comprising:

devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria immediately subjacent to said epithelial basement membrane, wherein said basement membrane and tunica propria are delaminated from [cells of an epithelium and abluminal portions of a tunica propria of a mammalian epithelial tissue] the submucosa.

11. A [devitalized] composition, comprising:

devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane, tunica propria, and [smooth muscle cells of] the tunica muscularis, wherein said basement membrane, tunica propria, and [smooth muscle] tunica muscularis are delaminated from epithelial cells of a mammalian epithelium.

12. A [devitalized] composition, comprising:

devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane and submucosa, wherein said basement membrane and submucosa are delaminated from the cells of an epithelium and tunica muscularis of a mammalian epithelial tissue.

13. A method for manufacture of a [devitalized] tissue graft composition, comprising:

soaking a mammalian epithelial tissue in a deepthelializing solution to form a [deepthelialized ] devitalized tissue having an epithelial basement membrane; and,



abrading said [deepithelialized ] devitalized tissue on an abluminal surface of said tissue to form a delaminated tissue, wherein the delaminated tissue remaining after abrading said tissue, comprises at least a portion of the epithelial basement membrane and said delaminated tissue comprising said basement membrane induces endogenous tissue restoration.

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